

Annex 14 – Agriculture

Primary Agency: Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA)

Support Agencies: Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)
Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA)
Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA)
Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)
Illinois National Guard (ILNG)
Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM)
Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC)
Central Management Services (CMS)
Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC)
Illinois State Police (ISP)
American Red Cross (ARC)

All Agencies: General Requirements for Other State Agencies, Boards and Commissions

I. Introduction

A. Purpose

1. Provide strategic and operational guidance on a coordinated state supported response in support of local jurisdictions to support animals needs affected during an emergency response.
2. Provide nutrition assistance; control and eradicate, as appropriate, any outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic (i.e., transmitted between animals and people) disease, or any outbreak of an economically devastating plant pest or disease; ensure the safety and security of the commercial food supply; protect natural and cultural resources and historic properties (NCH) resources; and provide for the safety and well-being of household pets during an emergency response or evacuation situation.

B. Scope

1. This Annex Coordinate the response to and recovery from an outbreak of an Emergency Animal Disease (EAD) or other Animal-related Disaster (AD) (EAD/AD). EAD's will require coordination in identification and control of diseases of public health significance. Issues of major concern in response to an EAD/AD outbreak or disaster include prevention of introduction; disease surveillance; rapid identification; initiation of steps to reduce the further spread of the disease; and disposal of infected, exposed, and dead animals during an outbreak.
2. This Annex provides technical advice and assistance to State, county and local governments, professional animal health organizations, and industry during an EAD/AD. The Annex includes procedures for the identification, containment, and elimination of an EAD as well as a

response to a natural disaster. This Annex is applicable to all Federal and State agencies identified in the Primary and Supporting Government Agency outline.

3. Responding to animal and plant diseases and pests includes implementing an integrated local and state response to an outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease, or an outbreak of a harmful or economically significant plant pest or disease.
4. Ensuring the safety and security of the commercial food supply includes execution of routine food safety inspections and other services to ensure the safety of food products entering commerce.

C. Policy

1. General

- a) Upon notification of a potential or actual incident that requires a coordinated local, state and federal response to support availability and delivery of food products; food safety; appropriate response to an animal or plant disease or pest; protection of natural and cultural resources and historic properties; and/or safety and well-being of household pets.
- b) Coordinated and conducted cooperatively with local incident management officials and with private entities.
- c) Each supporting agency is responsible for managing its respective assets and resources after receiving direction from primary agency for the incident.

2. Nutrition Assistance Policies

- a) Food supplies secured and delivered are suitable either for household distribution or for congregate meal service.
- b) Transportation and distribution of food supplies within the affected area arranged by local, state, and voluntary organizations.
- c) Coordinate with and support agencies responsible for mass feeding.
- d) Encourage use of congregate feeding arrangements as the primary outlet for disaster food supplies.
- e) Priority given to moving critical supplies of food into areas of acute need and then to areas of moderate need.

3. Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Response Policies

- a) Animal and plant disease and pest responses conducted in collaboration and cooperation with local authorities and private

industries to ensure continued human nutrition and animal, plant, and environmental security, and to support the American economy and trade.

- b) When addressing animal diseases, all animal depopulation activities conducted as humanely as possible while stopping pathogen spread and limiting the number of animals to be depopulated.
- c) Actions taken during an animal or plant emergency are guided by and coordinated with local and state emergency response officials.

4. Commercial Food Supply Safety and Security Policies

- a) Actions are guided by and coordinated with local and state emergency response officials and USDA policies and procedures.

D. Situation Overview

- 1. Several serious animal disease outbreaks have occurred outside the United States recently. Foot and Mouth Disease in Taiwan's swine population in 1997 resulted in the slaughter of more than five million hogs. Classical Swine Fever (Hog Cholera) epidemics in the United Kingdom, Mexico, and the Netherlands have resulted in the slaughter of more than 10 million hogs. The occurrence of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) in Great Britain has resulted in a large number of beef and dairy cattle destroyed and the disease continues to be identified. Importation of animal products from foreign countries, ease of travel throughout the world, lifting of restrictions on animal health movement as a result of Free Trade Agreements, and presence of international airports underscore Illinois' vulnerability to an outbreak of an EAD.
- 2. Protecting animal agriculture in the United States requires cooperation, participation and partnership. USDA has assumed leadership in combating the EAD problem; do not have the resources nor desire to assume these responsibilities alone. An outbreak of an EAD within the State of Illinois would be devastating to the economy. The local and state response is the first line of defense in an animal health disaster, the quality of which likely will determine the final economic impact to the State.
- 3. Natural and man-made disasters have been occurring with increasing frequency worldwide. Large animal production facilities and an ever-increasing pet population, a need for a disaster response plan is imperative. Local response to a disaster is limited and Federal response will be secondary.

E. Assumptions

- 1. Livestock producers will be first to notice an unusual condition/disease

in animals. Producers should make contact with one of four entities: 1) local private accredited veterinarian, 2) IDOA (State Veterinarian, field veterinarian, or livestock investigator), 3) the Illinois Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratories, or 4) the USDA/Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (USDA/APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) or the Area Veterinarian-In-Charge (AVIC), Field veterinarian, or livestock field investigator.

2. A private accredited veterinarian must report immediately findings to the State Veterinarian and/or USDA-AVIC should the disease situation be unexpected with high death loss, or if the symptoms are unusual, and especially if an EAD is suspected.
3. When notified, the State Veterinarian, or the USDA-AVIC, will in turn contact the other person to determine what steps, if any, are necessary to further characterize the disease occurrence. This may include dispatching of a Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostician (FADD) to the location and requesting assistance from the USDA Early Response Team (USDA-ERT).
4. FADD can determine if the differential diagnosis includes an EAD; USDA-AVIC will notify IEMA, USDA-Emergency Programs and other appropriate Federal government officials. FADD will obtain a Foreign Animal Disease Investigation case number from the USDA-AVIC. In addition, the USDA-AVIC and State Veterinarian, depending on the likelihood of an EAD, will take steps to isolate the disease to as small an area as possible requiring involvement of local and law enforcement agencies to assist in securing the area.
5. If the suspected disease has potential wildlife impacts, the State Veterinarian will contact IDNR, who in cooperation with IDOA, will determine the appropriate response to protect wildlife or conduct surveillance activities of wildlife to determine their disease status.
6. Suspected EAD's in or potentially affecting wildlife or fish will be reported to IDNR, who in turn will report this information to the State Veterinarian. If the disease has potential livestock impacts, IDOA will determine the appropriate response in cooperation with IDNR.
7. IDPH, in cooperation with IDOA, will determine the appropriate response to protect human health and welfare, if the suspected disease has potential public health impacts, the State Veterinarian will contact IDPH.
8. In the event of animal displacement, the State Veterinarian, in cooperation with local and state authorities, will determine the appropriate response to protect animal health and welfare.

II. Concept of Operations

A. General

1. The SEOC will coordinate the requirements of support agencies based upon the five core functional areas described in the succeeding paragraphs. Organizing and coordinating the capabilities and resources of the state to facilitate the delivery of services, technical assistance, expertise, and other support for incidents requiring a coordinated state response.
 2. Identifies, secures, and arranges for the transportation of food and/or the provision of food stamp benefits to affected areas and supports DHS/FEMA Mass Care in providing food for shelters and other mass feeding sites.
 3. Provides for an integrated local, state and federal response to an outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease, or an outbreak of a harmful or economically significant plant pest or disease deemed significant.
 4. Ensures safety and security of the Nation's commercial supply of food (e.g., meat, poultry, and egg products) for incidents requiring a coordinated response.
 5. Organizes and coordinates the capabilities and resources of local jurisdictions and state agencies to facilitate delivery of services, technical assistance, expertise, and other support for protection, preservation, conservation, rehabilitation, recovery, and restoration of NCH resources.
 6. Ensure an integrated response providing for safety and well-being of household pets during emergencies resulting in mass displacement of civilian populations.
- B. Notification, Alert and Warning
1. SEOC notification, alert and warning of SEOC liaisons will be handled in accordance with IEOP Annex 3, Appendix 1, Notification, Alert and Warning.
- C. Activation
1. In the event of an EAD or animal disaster, the State Veterinarian and/or USDA-AVIC, will contact IEMA and the Illinois Emergency Operations Plan (IEOP) will be implemented.
 2. The State Veterinarian and/or USDA-AVIC, along with IEMA will make the determination as to:
 - a) When to request activation of a USDA-APHIS,
 - b) Procedures necessary to isolate the affected area,
 - c) When to request activation of the SEOC, and
 - d) Procedures to be utilized to combat the outbreak once it is

identified as an EAD.

3. IDOA will send a liaison to the SEOC when it is activated.
4. IDOA and if possible, IDOA's other Supporting Organizations will activate and staff the IDOA Emergency Action Facility.

A. Communications

1. Communications will be conducted in accordance with standard operating procedures and managed using established procedures, processes and policy outlined in IEOP Annex 3, Communications.
2. Communications will be conducted in a National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliant manner utilizing clear-text and frequencies coordinated with the SEOC.

B. Resource Management and Logistics

1. Resource management and logistics will be carried out in accordance with IEOP Annex 9, Resource Management and Logistics.
2. Resource management includes mutual aid agreements and assistance agreements; the use of special federal and state teams; and resource mobilization protocols.

C. Reporting Requirements

1. SEOC information, intelligence and situation reporting will be conducted in accordance with SEOC Situation and Rapid Needs Assessment Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG).
2. Upon activation to the SEOC, all agency liaisons (LNO) having a response role will compile and disseminate situational reports on capabilities and services.

D. Implementation Requirements

1. Notification, activation, deployment, coordination, implementation and sustainment of state resources in support of response operations are approved and coordinated through the SEOC.
2. The SEOC manager predicates implementation of response operations on approval of a request from a local government or private sector organization.
3. Coordination and sustainment requirements of response operations must be fully addressed prior to implementation.

E. Organization

1. Direction and Control
 - a) Primary point of contact for activation of this Annex is the State Veterinarian. The State Veterinarian will notify IEMA of an EAD/AD.
 - b) If and when the EAD/AD exceeds State and local capabilities, the Governor may request Federal emergency or disaster assistance.
 - c) Listed “Other Supporting Organizations”, local veterinarians, animal control agencies, and Noah’s Wish will participate in an emergency operation on a voluntary basis.
2. Coordinating Elements
 - a) State-deployed resources will coordinate with the SEOC and on-scene incident commander.
 - 1) In support of local and state response operations, liaisons (LNOs) may be assigned under the direct coordination and management of state-activated resources.
3. Federal Coordination
 - a) This Annex provides for response actions prior to the full involvement of USDA, and also provides a framework for supporting the USDA once they are fully engaged through their emergency response structure. USDA will use the State Veterinarian as the primary contact point for IDOA. The State Veterinarian will serve as the IDOA representative in the USDA response system. USDA/APHIS, VS Emergency Programs will assume a primary role for responding to an EAD within a few days of diagnosis.
 - b) The SEOC will coordinate inclusion of federal assets into state response operations.
 - c) SEOC LNOs, state agencies, boards and commissions will coordinate with federal counterparts in accordance with enabling authority to collect, receive, compile and develop situational reports on response operations.
 - d) When the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture declares an emergency or extraordinary emergency, the USDA-APHIS can be fully activated with funding made available from the Commodity Credit Corporation for indemnity.

III. Roles and Responsibilities

A. Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA)

1. Functions as the primary decision maker and co-decision maker with USDA-APHIS and functions as the lead State agency.
 2. Issues quarantines, stop movement orders and oversees the implementation and enforcement of restricted or quarantined areas, with the assistance of the other State and Federal supporting agencies. Because time is of the essence in an animal health emergency, quarantines may initially be issued verbally but will be documented in writing as soon as practical.
 3. Determines the extent to which IDOA personnel will respond to an animal health emergency. Duties in support of this Annex will take priority over all other duties of IDOA.
 4. Coordinates with non-governmental organizations (NGOs), as well as other animal welfare support organizations and the local animal control officer to ensure all animal welfare issues are being addressed.
- B. Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA)
1. Determines the need for a Gubernatorial Proclamation of a Disaster or Emergency.
 2. Coordinates assistance from support agencies.
 3. Activates the SEOC when determined necessary.
 4. Coordinates supplemental Federal assistance with FEMA.
 5. Coordinates the providing of communications equipment.
 6. Provides expertise regarding the handling of contaminated substances.
 7. Provides protective clothing and decontamination equipment for use in infected areas.
- C. Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)
1. Provides technical advice on the risks to wildlife and methods to mitigate these risks.
 2. Supports the law enforcement aspect of the restricted or quarantine area, if applicable. IDNR will make available specialized equipment (e.g. boats, snowmobiles, ATVs and four-wheel drive vehicles) and associated personnel, as needed.
 3. Initiates a surveillance program in the immediate vicinity of the outbreak and determine if the disease has spread to wildlife if the EAD is one that has a history of affecting wildlife. In addition, the IDNR will initiate steps to prevent the spread of the disease to susceptible wildlife.

4. Identifies the potential for the disease to be spread by wildlife (e.g., infected animals, scavengers, intermediate hosts) outside of the affected areas.
 5. Identifies hunting seasons and wildlife associated within affected areas and makes recommendation on closing seasons and restricting access to public sites. IDNR will enforce these restrictions and enlist the assistance of other law enforcement agencies as necessary.
 6. Expedites collecting permits for personnel and assists in collections as necessary.
 7. Provides expertise and data showing geographical information on soils, surface water and ground water.
- D. Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)
1. Communicates with the local health departments, medical facilities and regulated entities in the event the EAD is zoonotic.
 2. Determines public health risk and impact, if any, upon being informed that a suspected EAD has been detected within the State of Illinois.
 3. Notifies the U.S. Centers for Disease Control that an outbreak of an EAD has occurred within the boundaries of the State of Illinois, inform them of the nature of the disease, its primary animal host, and if it is considered to be a health hazard to humans.
 4. Assesses and advises regarding the public health risk associated with burial or burning of dead and affected animals.
 5. Assists with epidemiological investigations.
- E. Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA)
1. Provides expertise regarding the disposal of contaminated animal carcasses, bedding, feedstuffs and equipment in a way that is environmentally sound and does not further the spread of disease,
 2. Provides expertise regarding the cleaning and disinfection of infected areas using environmentally sound procedures and chemicals,
 3. Expedites the process of obtaining necessary permits for the above.
- F. Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)
1. Provides aircraft and aircrews to conduct assessment and surveillance activities.
 2. Provides air transportation for emergency workers and other key personnel, when required.

3. Coordinates with district offices, county and township commissioners to determine which roads, if any, could be closed around the periphery of the quarantined zones to aid in biosecurity and traffic control.
4. Provides personnel, heavy equipment, trucks and other vehicles for animal carcass removal and disposal.
5. Provides equipment and personnel to assist in vehicle decontamination.
6. Provides barricades and/or signs to be used in and around the quarantined zones.

G. Illinois National Guard (ILNG)

1. Provides support to ISP for security in and around the impacted area.
2. Provides traffic and access control.
3. Provides emergency communications equipment and personnel.
4. Assists IDOA with euthanasia and proper disposal of infected animals.
5. Assists IDOA and other responding agencies with the transportation of necessary equipment, personnel and livestock.
6. Assists IDOA with the decontamination of vehicles, equipment, and facilities.
7. Provides aircraft and aircrews to conduct assessment and surveillance operations.
8. Provides heavy equipment, trucks, other vehicles and work force for animal carcass removal and disposal.

H. Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM)

1. Coordinates the use of local fire department personnel and equipment when requested.
2. Provides expertise in fire safety when burning is used for carcass and materials disposal.
3. Provides expertise on the use of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and other Personal Protection Equipment (PPE).

I. Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC)

1. Provides buses, vans, vehicles and any available staff to drive these vehicles.

J. Central Management Services (CMS)

1. Assists with the procurement of needed emergency supplies and equipment.
2. Provides vehicles, fuel, repairs and service needed to carry out the emergency animal disease operation.
3. Assists with purchasing and/or contracting telecommunications equipment.

K. Illinois State Police

1. Serves as the lead State Law Enforcement Agency for security in and around the impacted area.
2. Restricts movement in and around the quarantine zone to prevent the movement of animals and animal related products in order to stop the spread of the disease.
3. Provides traffic and access control.

L. Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC)

1. Provides information and assistance in the Transportation Industry (highway and rail) under its jurisdiction in and around quarantined areas.
2. Provides information regarding regulated water, gas, electric and telephone companies and services under its jurisdiction in and around quarantined areas.

M. American Red Cross (ARC)

1. Provides mass care services for those in the impacted area.
2. Provides mental health services to those impacted, if required.

IV. Authorities and References

- A. Illinois Diseased Animal Act; as amended
- B. Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act; as amended